As regards damage, 57 of the art objects sent abroad to USA, France and USSR have suffered damage in varying degrees. All these art objects have been received back in India. Since these objects were damaged during transportation, responsibility cannot be fixed on anyone.

As regards the art objects sent to Japan most of which are still being exhibited, no report of any loss or damage has been received so far.

Recaliberation of Fare Meters of TSRs/Taxis in Delhi

*208. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA:
SHRI MURLIDHAR CHANDRAKANT BHANDARE:

Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) when the TSR (three wheeler scooters) and Taxi fares in Delhi were raised by Government last, stating the amount of hike;

(b) by when the concerned authorities were supposed to distribute the revised fare charts to the TSR and Taxi owners/drivers to check fleecing of passengers and which authority is responsible to ensure compliance of the requirement to display the revised fare charts by the TSR and Taxi drivers;

(c) whether the revised fare charts have been issued to all the TSRs and Taxis in the city; if not what are the reasons therefor; and

(d) what is the percentage of TSRs/Taxis in the city which have got their meters recaliberated, to incorporate the hike in the fares and what action has been taken by Government to get the fare meters recaliberated by the remaining TSRs/Taxis in the city?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI RAJESH PILOT): (a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

Delhi Administration have intimated as follows:—

(a) The fare in respect of TSRs/Taxis were raised in the Union Territory of Delhi w.e.f. 14-1-1988. The raise was approximately 6.25 per cent.

(b) and (c) The new fare charts were printed within three days and these were distributed to the TSR/Taxi owners/drivers through DCP (Traffic)/Auto-rickshaw Taxi Unions with the clear instructions that it will be compulsory on the part of the autorickshaw/taxi drivers to prominently display the chart inside the vehicle. Wide publicity was also given in the leading newspapers. The STA and the Traffic Police can take cognisance of non-display of fare charts as non adherence to permit conditions.

(d) After the increase in fares, no recaliberation of meters has been done. Instead revised fare charts have been issued and distributed in adequate numbers. Recaliberation will be done after a final decision is taken on a proposal now under consideration of Delhi Administration to introduce electronic digital fare meters.

Treating the NPA of Dectors as Basic Pay

*209. SHRIMATI KANAK MUKHERJEE:
SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that as a result of the service doctors' agitation, a package was offered to the doctors in which it was promised that the Non-Practising Allowance (NPA) would be treated as basic pay for all service matters; and

(b) if so, whether NPA is being considered as basic pay for the pur-

poses of eligibility for Government accommodation, House Building Advance, Motor Car Allowance, Leave Travel Concession, Travelling Allowance and other service matters?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) As per orders issued by the Ministry of Finance, the Non-Practising Allowance will be treated as 'Pay' for all service matters. In other words, the Non-Practising Allowance will be taken into account for computing D.A., entitlement of TA/DA and other allowances as well as for calculation of retirement benefits.

(b) The decision to treat NPA as basic pay for service matters as hitherto has been referred to the other Departments in the Government of India for issuing clarificatory orders, wherever applicable in respect of eligibility for Government accommodation, House Building Advance, Motor Car Allowance and Leave Travel Concession.

Rail accidents

*210. DR. (SHRIMATI) NAJMA HEPTULLA:

SHRI JERLIE E. TARIANG:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the number of rail accidents and persons killed/injured during the last six months throughout the country;

(b) what is the amount of compensation paid to the injured/legal heirs of the deceased; and

(c) what is the number of pending claims in respect of deaths in rail accidents and the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA): (a) During the period February to July, 1988, 298 consequential train accidents took place on the Indian Railways. In these accidents, 142 persons lost their lives and 395 sustained injuries.

(b) and (c) 142 claims in respect of the deceased are pending. Compensation claims in respect of the deceased and the injured are awaiting the decisions of the Claims Commissioners. However, ex gratia payments of Rs. 13,52,700/- were made during this period.

Radio therapy Units in Medical Colleges and Hospitals

*211. SHRI BIR BHADRA PRATAP SINGH:

SHRI BHAGATRAM MANHAR:

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of medical colleges/hospitals in the country have acquired radio therapy units; if so, what are the names of those colleges/institutions and the broad nature of equipment installed by each of them; and

(b) what are the names of other colleges/institutions which are likely to set up such units, by the end of Seventh Five Year Plan period?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPARDE): (a) The information about the Colleges/Institutions having radiotherapy units and the nature of equipment installed by them is given in the Annexure. [*See* Appendix CXLVII, Annexure No. 74]

(b) According to the information available with the Government of India, 100 institutions including Medical Colleges have already got the Cobalt Therapy Units. Under the National Cancer Control Programme the Government of India gives financial assistance to institutions to set up cobalt therapy facilities. It is proposed to cover all the recognised